

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 023969
ORIGIN EB-08

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-----089681 301817Z /53
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AU, UK, PL

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM SERVICES TO VIENNA AND BEYOND

REF: A) VIENNA 708, B) STATE 21490

1. REFTELS HAVE OBVIOUSLY CROSSED.
2. AS SITUATION NOW APPEARS, WE ARE FACED WITH TWO INTERRELATED BUT DISTINGUISHABLE ISSUES, INVOLVING PAN AM'S SERVICES VIA LONDON WITH CHANGE OF GAUGE AT LONDON PRIOR TO APRIL 29, AND SERVICES BEYOND VIENNA TO WARSAW THEREAFTER. THE LONDON INTERMEDIATE AND CHANGE OF GAUGE ARE, IN OUR VIEW, CONSISTENT WITH US-AUSTRIA AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT; SERVICES BEYOND
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VIENNA TO WARSAW ARE NOT. THE TWO ARE RELATED BY OPERATIONAL REALITY THAT US-AUSTRIA AIRLINE MARKET CANNOT SUPPORT ADEQUATE LEVELS OF DIRECT SERVICE WITHOUT SUPPORT OF REASONABLE LEVELS OF FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC.

3. WITH REGARD TO FIRST ISSUE, AUSTRIANS SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT SERVICE VIA LONDON BETWEEN MARCH 3 AND

APRIL 29 IS ONLY SERVICE OPTION OPEN TO PAN AM DURING INITIAL PERIOD OF SERVICE TO AUSTRIA. THE LONDON INTERMEDIATE IS NECESSARY TO MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH

AIRLINE'S OTHER TRANSATLANTIC SERVICES SO AS TO COLLECT PASSENGERS GOING TO AND FROM US POINTS OTHER THAN SAN FRANCISCO. WITHOUT ABILITY TO OPERATE THROUGH LONDON, THERE IS STRONG POSSIBILITY AIRLINE WILL NOT

SERVE US-AUSTRIA MARKET AT ALL, AND WE COULD BE FACED WITH UNFORTUNATE SITUATION OF NO NATIONAL AIRLINE OF EITHER SIDE SERVING US-AUSTRIA MARKET.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD REEMPHASIZE FOREGOING TO FOREIGN

MINISTRY. ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS-OR ELEMENTS OF EMBASSY NOTE-FOLLOW:

PAN AMERICAN HAS INFORMED US AUTHORITIES THAT AUSTRIAN AERONAUTICAL AUTHORITIES HAVE REJECTED A SCHEDULE NOTIFICATION FILING MADE JANUARY 10 FOR PERIOD MARCH 3 TO APRIL 29.

THE USG IS CONCERNED BECAUSE THE OPERATIONS PLANNED BY PAN AM FOR THAT PERIOD ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE US-AUSTRIA AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT OF 1966, SPECIFICALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH ARTICLES 9, 10 AND 11.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE REPORTED REJECTION OF PAN AMERICAN SCHEDULES APPEARS INCONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 12 (A) OF THE AGREEMENT.

THE USG ASSUMES THEREFORE PAN AM'S SERVICES WILL OPERATE AS PROPOSED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

THE US IS NOT UNMINDFUL OF AUSTRIAN CONCERNS WITH RESPECT TO CARRIAGE OF FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC ON ROUTES ON WHICH AUA OPERATES. WE WOULD POINT OUT THE USE OF LONDON INTERMEDIATE IS FOR A VERY BRIEF INITIAL PERIOD.

5. AUSTRIANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO FOCUS THEIR ATTENTION INSTEAD ON SECOND ISSUE, I.E., PAN AM'S SERVICE TO WARSAW FOLLOWING APRIL 29 AND ON US OFFER TO CONSIDER CONCESSIONS TO MEET AUSTRIAN CONCERNS. VANCE

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